



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1944

J. W. INNES, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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1945

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman Councillor CLAYTON.

Vice-Chairman Alderman STEPHENSON.

The Mayor (Councillor H. HARRISON).

Alderman—WILKINSON.

Councillors—BROWNE, CARR, DICK, KNIPE, and McSHERRY.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman Councillor CLAYTON.

Vice-Chairman Alderman STEPHENSON.

The Members of the Health and Housing Committee with
Mesdames EVANS, JOHNSON, and WIGNALL.

REPRESENTATIVES ON THE WEST CUMBERLAND JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

Councillor CLAYTON—Chairman of the Board.

Councillor EVANS.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

J. W. INNES, M.A., M.B.,
Ch.B., D.P.H. *Medical Officer of Health*

J. L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H. *Deputy Medical Officer of
Health (on Military Service).*

G. W. ELDER, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H. *Temporary Assistant Medical
Officer of Health and School
Medical Officer
(appointed 28-2-44).*

G. B. HOPKIN, L.D.S., H.D.D.,
R.C.S. (Edin.). *Dental Officer*

J. F. LORD, C.R.S.I. *Sanitary Inspector*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT—*Continued.*

A. A. BELDON, C.R.S.I.	...	...	<i>Additional Sanitary Inspector</i>
Miss BERRY	...	...	<i>Health Visitor and School Nurse.</i>
Miss LODGE	...	...	Do.
Miss HODGSON	...	...	Do.
*Mrs. MESSENGER	...	...	Do. (resigned 30- 9-44).
Miss WRIGHT	...	...	Do.. (resigned 7-12-44).

The above are fully trained Nurses, and hold the C.M.B.
Certificate, and the Health Visitors' Certificate.

Miss FIELD, C.M.B.	...	...	<i>Dental Attendant.</i>
J. WEAR, C.R.S.I.	...	...	<i>Clerk (on Military Service).</i>
Miss DAVIDSON	...	...	<i>Clerk-Typist.</i>
*Mrs. ROWE	...	...	Do.
*Miss G. BANKS	...	...	Do.
*Miss C. BANKS, S.R.N.	...	...	<i>Matron War-time Nursery.</i>
Mrs. S. KENDAL, S.R.N.	...	...	<i>Housing Welfare Officer.</i>

*—Temporary War Appointment.

PART TIME.

R. J. L. FRASER, M.D., D.O.M.S.	...	...	<i>Ophthalmic Surgeon.</i>
J. STEVEN FAULDS, M.D., F.R.F.P.S.	...	...	<i>Bacteriologist, Cumberland Laboratory.</i>
R. S. VENTERS, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.	...	...	<i>Consultant Ear, Nose and Throat.</i>
G. P. MILNE, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.O.G.	...	...	<i>Consultant Gynaecologist.</i>
C. J. H. STOCK, B.Sc., F.I.C.	...	...	<i>Analyst.</i>
W. LITT, M.R.C.V.S.	...	...	<i>Veterinary Inspector.</i>

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

81, LOWTHER STREET,

WHITEHAVEN.

12th July, 1945.

To His Worship the Mayor,

The Aldermen and Councillors,

Borough of Whitehaven.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1944.

It is very pleasing to be able to report—after more than five years of war—that taken generally the statistics for the year are the best that have ever been presented.

The General Death Rate of 11.1 per 1,000 was 1.3 better than for the previous year and is, with one exception (10.8 in 1932) the best ever recorded for Whitehaven, being 0.5 per 1,000 less than the rate for England and Wales.

The Birth Rate rose by 3.0 per 1,000 and was 4.5 higher than the rate for the country as a whole, whilst the Infantile Death Rate was again reduced by 3.0 per 1,000 live births and again constitutes a low record for Whitehaven, and is identical with the rate for England as a whole. Deaths from Tuberculosis showed a slight reduction, those from Pulmonary Tuberculosis being five less, but unfortunately those from Non-Pulmonary forms were three more. As regards notifiable infectious diseases, the community remained remarkably free from these, and the only deaths attributable to diseases of an epidemic nature were three from Whooping Cough and one from Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.

For the eighth consecutive year there was not a death from Diphtheria, and there is no doubt whatsoever that the work that has been devoted to immunisation since 1936 has paid a very handsome dividend, but there is just the danger that the success of the campaign will defeat its own object eventually through parents becoming apathetic about having their children protected when danger does not now seem imminent. It is only by keeping up the high standard of immunisation that has been established that the danger can be kept at a distance and unless parents continue fully to co-operate sooner or later the penalty will have to be paid.

There is nothing more of moment to report. The housing position remains as acute as ever and will constitute the biggest problem to be tackled when circumstances permit.

I wish to express my indebtedness to the members of my staff for their continued loyalty of effort to maintain the efficiency of the Department; to the members of other departments who have invariably given all help and co-operation; and to the Chairman and Members of the Committees concerned for their continued support and encouragement.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. INNES,

Medical Officer of Health.

A.—STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

I.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Borough in acres	...	...	...	...	4,315
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid year, 1944)	...	...	...	...	21,650
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1944) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	6,044
Rateable Value (1st April, 1944)	...	...	...	...	£102,042
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£386

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.		Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births—Legitimate	...	229	220	449
—Illegitimate	...	22	8	30
Total	...	251	228	479

Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population 22.1

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Still Births—Legitimate	...	11	3	14
—Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
Total	...	11	3	14

Rate per 1,000 total births 36.0

DEATHS.		Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths (all ages)	...	130	110	240
Death Rate per 1,000 of Population	...	...	11.1	

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

		Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 (Live & Still) Births.
From Sepsis	...	nil	nil
From other causes	...	nil	nil
Total	...	nil	nil

Death Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	46
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	44
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	67

Deaths from

Cancer (all ages)	30
Measles (all ages)	—
Whooping Cough (all ages)	3
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	—

BIRTHS.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population	22.1
„ „ England and Wales	17.6
„ „ 126 Great Towns	20.3
„ „ 148 Smaller Towns	20.9
(population 25,000—50,000)	
„ „ London Ad. County	15.0
„ „ County of Cumberland	19.7

The number of live births registered during the year was 479, 251 males and 228 females, of whom 22 males and 8 females were illegitimate. The Birth Rate was 22.1 per thousand of estimated resident population, the rate being 3.0 more than the rate for 1943, whereas the rate for the country as a whole showed an increase of 1.1.

DEATHS.

Death Rate per 1,000 of Population	11.1
„ „ England and Wales	11.6
„ „ 126 Great Towns	13.7
„ „ 148 Smaller Towns	12.4
„ „ London	15.7
„ „ County of Cumberland	12.3

The number of deaths of residents belonging to the Borough, after making allowance for inward and outward transfers, was 240, viz., 130 males and 110 females, which gives a Death Rate of 11.1 per thousand.

The actual number of deaths was 38 less than in the previous year, and the Death Rate 1.3 less as compared with an improvement in the Death Rate for the country as a whole of 0.5.

The chief causes of death during the year were Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System 68, Cancer 30, Respiratory Diseases, Pneumonia, Bronchitis, etc., 32, and Tuberculosis 15.

The ages of all cases who died during 1944 and the cause of death are shown in the following Tables:—

AGE AT DEATH OF ALL CASES, WHITEHAVENBOROUGH, 1944.

Age Groups	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	Over 65	Total
Males ...	15	3	1	1	—	2	—	2	4	6	8	13	23	52	130
Females ...	7	2	2	—	2	—	1	—	4	4	7	11	12	58	110

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1944.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
All causes	130	110
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
Measles	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Influenza	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	5	4
Other Tuberculous Disease	3	3
Syphilis	—	1
Cancer	18	12
Diabetes	1	4
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	11	8
Heart Disease	19	25
Other Circulatory Diseases	4	1
Bronchitis	8	8
Pneumonia (all forms)	6	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	3	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	4	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—
Appendicitis	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases	3	3
Nephritis	2	6
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c. ...	6	4
Road Traffic Accidents	1	—
Other Violence	12	1
Suicide	—	—
All Other Causes	21	20

MATERNAL DEATHS.

No maternal Death took place within the year.

The rate per 1,000 total births as compared with the corresponding rates for the whole country were:—

	<i>No. of Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Total Births.</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>
From Sepsis ...	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	0.59
From other causes	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	1.34
	—	—	—
Total ...	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	1.93
	—	—	—

*No. of
Notifications.*

Notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia ...	*14	28.39	10.34
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*Five of persons not resident in the Borough.

INFANTILE DEATHS.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per thousand live births:—

Legitimate 44, Illegitimate 67.	Total 46.
England and Wales ...	46
126 Great Towns ...	52
148 Smaller Towns ...	44
London ...	61
County of Cumberland ...	49

The number of deaths of children under one year of age during 1944 was 22, viz., 15 males and 7 females, which gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of 46 per 1,000 registered live births.

This rate shows an improvement of 3 compared with that for the previous year, and is the best rate ever recorded for Whitehaven. That this figure should have been reached after five years of war is a testimony to the general standard of health of the community.

The chief causes of the Infantile Deaths were Prematurity and Congenital Defects which accounted for 10 of the 22 deaths, and Whooping Cough which accounted for 3. 12 or 55 per cent. of the deaths occurred in the neo-natal period, that is within the first month of life. The Mortality Rates for Male and Female Infants respectively were 60 and 31.

Births, Infantile Deaths, and Infantile Mortality Rates by wards are shown in the following table.

	Bransty	Harbour	Kells	Sandwith	Central	Hensingham	Totals
Registered Births	69	59	100	124	57	70	479
Infantile Deaths	2	3	3	7	2	5	22
Infantile Mortality Rate	29	51	30	56	35	71	46

INFANTILE DEATHS SHOWN BY AGES AND CAUSE OF DEATH, 1944.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	AGE IN WEEKS.				AGE IN MONTHS						Total Deaths.
	Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	Under 1 M'th	1—2	2—3	3—6	6—9	9—12	
Premature Birth	7	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Congenital Malformations and Debility	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	3
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Other Causes	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	5
	10	2	—	—	12	3	1	4	2	—	22

B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

I.—(i) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

A list is given at the beginning of the Report showing the above Officers.

The post of Temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health was vacant for three months until the services of Dr. Elder were obtained on a part-time sessional basis, at the end of February.

There were two vacancies on the Health Visitors' staff at the close of the year, Mrs. Messenger having left at the end of September for domestic reasons, and Miss Wright in December to take up another post.

(ii) SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE AREA.

No new services were provided during the year, and remain as detailed in previous Reports.

(a) *Welfare Centres.*

The two Centres were held weekly, Sandhills Lane on Wednesdays and Kells on Fridays. The percentage, in relation to notified births, of children under one year of age who were brought to the Centres for the first time was 69 per cent., a decrease of 7 per cent.

The figures for the two Centres during the year were as follows:—

	<i>Sandhills Lane.</i>	<i>Kells.</i>	<i>Total Borough.</i>
No. of Sessions	52	52	104
No. of children 0-1 years of age who attended for the first time ...	199	133	332
No. of children 1-5 years of age who attended for the first time ...	36	15	51
Total attendance ...	2,576	2,241	4,817
Average attendance per Session	49	43	—

Milk Food in the form of dried milk was issued to the extent of 7,133lb.

(b) *Ante-Natal Clinic.*

The Ante-Natal Clinic has been held each Monday at the Sandhills Lane Centre, and the figures for attendances are as follows:—

Total attendances of expectant mothers	...	1,537
No. of expectant mothers who attended	...	374
Average attendance per Session	...	32

The number of expectant mothers who attended showed an increase of 22, whilst the attendances went up by 333.

Domiciliary Ante-Natal Examinations.

The number of expectant mothers who were examined under this scheme during the year was 251 and the number of reports received was 324, 32 less than in 1943:—

First Reports	...	...	...	...	251
Second Reports	...	...	...	...	73
Third Reports	...	...	...	...	—

The cost to the Council for these reports was £81 os. od.

Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic.

Dr. Milne, the consulting gynaecologist, saw 28 new cases and did 10 re-examinations.

(c) *Artificial Sunlight Clinic.*

An Artificial Sunlight Clinic was held twice weekly throughout the year at the Sandhills Lane Centre.

During the year 9 babies attended, making a total of 129 attendances.

(d) *Dental Clinic.*

Mr. Hopkin, Dental Officer, has supplied the following information with regard to the dental work done in connection with mothers and young children:—

The new arrangements made last year for the dental examination and treatment of Maternity and Child Welfare patients, have been in operation for sixteen months and some idea of the response to the facilities offered can now be obtained.

Unfortunately, the response made reflects only too accurately the attitude of a large section of the population to the care of their teeth, in short, gross neglect and unawareness of the ill effects on health of bad teeth.

The results of the inspections made are given in Section A. It will be seen that just over 50 per cent. of the mothers accepted treatment for themselves, and 65 per cent. consented to the treatment of their children.

The number of attendances made during the year is shown in Section B, and the details of treatment carried out are given in Section C.

The need for the early and regular examination of children under five is indicated by the results shown in the following Table where it will be seen that, even before the age of two years, over a quarter of the children seen had decayed teeth.

A.—EXAMINATIONS.

	<i>Expectant Mothers.</i>	<i>Nursing Mothers.</i>	<i>Pre-School Children</i>
1st Inspections during year	214	8	276
Re-inspections	3	1	57
Found to require treatment	176	9	80
No. who accepted treatment	96	6	52
Per cent. who accepted treatment	54	75	65

B.—ATTENDANCES FOR EXAMINATION AND/OR TREATMENT.

1st Attendance during year	221	10	283
Other attendances during year	168	17	143

C.—TREATMENT.

Fillings	132	26	124
Extractions	148	3	39

Anaesthetics—

General (Nitrous Oxide)	—	—	21
Local	84	11	—
Scalings & Gum Treatments	77	2	1
Other Operations	24	6	47

Denture Work—

No. of patients receiving dentures	15	2	—
No. of dentures supplied	20	2	—
No. of dentures repaired	2	1	—

No. of Sessions spent on Examinations and Treatment—132.

Of the above dentures, five were supplied at reduced cost-price, the remainder being paid for at full cost.

Age Group in Half Years	No. Children Examined	No with Sound Teeth	No with Decayed Teeth	% with Decayed Teeth
6 mo.—1 yr.	61	58	3	4.9
1 yr. —1½ yr.	16	12	4	25.0
1½ yr. —2 yr.	21	15	6	28.6
2 yr. —2½ yr.	32	21	11	34.4
2½ yr. —3 yr.	43	22	21	48.8
3 yr. —3½ yr.	16	7	9	56.2
3½ yr. —4 yr.	9	2	7	77.7
4 yr. —4½ yr.	9	4	5	55.5

In connection with the Dental Scheme as now organised, it may be of interest to the Committee to know that in their Interim Report the Teviot Committee on Dentistry say the provision of such a scheme as this by Local Authorities was the exception.

(e) *Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.*

The Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic is held on the second and fourth Friday of each month at the Sandhills Lane Centre, which Child Welfare cases can attend along with School cases.

The following Table shows the Child Welfare cases dealt with:—

No. of new cases seen	...	...	...	...	11
Total cases seen	...	...	...	...	18
No. of cases referred for operation	...	...	...	...	7
No. of cases referred for other treatment	...	...	...	...	—
No. of cases referred for observation	...	...	...	...	—
No. of cases operated on (all Tonsils and Adenoids)	...	...	...	...	6

(f) *Eye Clinic.*

An Eye Clinic, in conjunction with the School Medical Service, was held on the first Thursday of each month. The following Child Welfare cases were dealt with:—

No. of new cases seen	...	...	...	...	7
Total cases seen	...	...	...	...	7
No. of Refractions	...	...	...	...	7
No. of other defects	...	...	...	...	—
Glasses prescribed	...	...	...	...	7
Glasses obtained	...	...	...	...	7

(g) *Orthopaedic Treatment.*

During the year ten children under school age made 26 attendances at the Orthopaedic Clinic. One child of this age was admitted to the Ethel Hedley Hospital, Windermere.

(h) *War-Time Nursery.*

The War-Time Nursery was carried on during the year for the reception of children under five years of age belonging to mothers who were engaged on War work, directly or indirectly.

The number of children on the register throughout the year was 76—29 (0-2 years of age) and 47 (2-5 years of age). The attendance over the year averaged 22—six under two years, and sixteen 2-5 years.

This shows a considerable improvement over the figures for the previous years, and I think the great benefits to be obtained from such an institution are being appreciated.

(i) *Hospitals.*

The position as regards hospital accommodation remains as stated in previous Reports.

II.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(I) MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

(a) *Midwives.*

These are provided by the County Council as Local Supervising Authority, four full-time midwives and one relief being provided. They work in close co-operation with the Officers of the Local Authority and attend the weekly Ante-Natal Clinic for the supervision of their cases. Copies of all Domiciliary Ante-Natal Reports relating to their cases are supplied to them.

(b) *Maternity Services.*

The Town Council continued their arrangement with the Whitehaven and West Cumberland Hospital by which maternity cases coming within the Council's Income Scale are received into that institution, through arrangements made by the Local Authority.

During the year 36 cases were admitted through the Local Authority, but altogether 168 Borough confinements took place in Hospital.

Puerperal Cases.—By arrangement with the County Council, cases of Puerperal Infection occurring either in Hospital or in the Borough are transferred for treatment to Crozier Lodge, Carlisle. There were no cases so admitted during the year.

(c) *Health Visitors.*

Five Health Visitors act also as School Nurses, each combining the duties of the two posts for an area including a group of schools. Two of the posts were vacant at the close of the year.

The number of home visits showed a decrease of 1,142 for the year, which can be accounted for by the loss of sixteen Health-Visitor-weeks.

The visits made by each visitor are detailed below:—

	Miss Berry	Miss Lodge	Miss Hodgson	Mrs. Messenger 30-9-44	Miss Wright 7-12-44	Total
First visits to children under one year of age	99	92	106	65	91	453
Re-visits to children under one year of age	1,000	1,286	1,334	862	838	5,320
Visits to children : 1—5 years of age	2,160	1,767	1,882	1,426	1,848	9,083
Visits to Expectant Mothers ...	109	110	82	46	78	425
Total ...	3,368	3,255	3,404	2,399	2,855	15,281

(d) *Child Life Protection.*

The Local Authority discharges the functions under Part VII of the Public Health Act, 1936, with reference to the supervision of children under nine years of age who are maintained for reward apart from their parents, through the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. The Health Visitors and Mrs. Wignall are the designated Child Protection Visitors.

During the year, 3 children were on the Register and were kept under regular supervision, reports being submitted to each meeting of the Committee. One child returned to the care of his mother during the year.

C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Sanitary matters are fully dealt with in a report by Mr. Lord, Sanitary Inspector, which is printed as an appendix, and there were no matters of outstanding importance that call for comment.

D.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

I.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

Infectious diseases notified during the year are shown by age-groups in the following table with the number admitted to Hospital and the number of deaths from these diseases.

Apart from a few cases of Whooping Cough, the community was again remarkably free from diseases of an epidemic nature.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.		Total Cases Notified.	Under 1 Year.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	... ..	10	—	—	—	—	2	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diphtheria	... ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	3	—	—	—	8	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	... ..	*14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	... ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	10 forms)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	... ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal-Meningitis	... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Measles	... ..	11	1	—	1	—	1	4	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	... ..	42	8	8	7	5	5	8	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3

* 12 were notified from Whitehaven Hospital. 5 of these did not belong to the district

SMALLPOX.

No case of Smallpox occurred during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

Ten cases were notified during the year—a decrease of 34 as compared with the number for the previous year. One case was admitted to Hospital because of special circumstances, and there were no deaths, the cases being generally of a mild type.

DIPHTHERIA.

Eight cases were notified during the year. Actually twenty cases were admitted to Hospital, and the diagnosis was confirmed in fourteen, all of whom recovered.

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

The scheme for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria continued in operation through the year, both through the Schools and through the Welfare Clinics for those under school age.

During 1944, a total of 724 new immunisations were completed. Four hundred and thirty-seven in the 0-5 years-of-age group, and 287 in the 5-15 year groups.

In addition, 388 children were re-immunised, as re-immunisation has now been made available for children who have been immunised in infancy and are now beginning school, and for older children whose immunisation was done more than four years ago.

In the case of the primary immunisations the “two-shot” method is employed with the dosage of 0.3 c.c. and 0.5 c.c. A.P.T. and for re-immunisation one “shot” of 0.5 c.c. is given.

The total number of children immunised since the scheme began in 1936 has now reached the total of 7,968, and these are shown by ages at the time of their original immunisation in the Table hereunder.

The position is highly satisfactory as regards the older children, but we still find great difficulty in getting sufficient of the younger infants immunised in spite of all propaganda. The total in this group shows a slight increase over any previous total, and the percentage for the group shows an improvement of 5 per cent.

PERCENTAGES OF CHILD POPULATION IMMUNISED :

(a) 0-5 years of age :

The number of children in the age-groups 1940-1944 inclusive who were immunised on the 31st December, 1944, and of whom the Local Authority has details, was 1,163. The number of children in these groups, according to a figure supplied by the Registrar-General, was 2,070, so that the percentage immunised was 56, an increase of 5 per cent. over the number for the previous year. Actually since immunisation is not done until the child is one year old, the percentage immunised of those available would be 70.

(b) 5-15 years of age :

The number of children in the age-groups 1930-1939 inclusive who were immunised on the 31st December, 1944, and of whom the Local Authority has details, was 3,993. The number of children in these groups, according to a figure supplied by the Registrar-General, was 4,073, so that the percentage immunised was 98, an increase of 4 per cent. over the number for the previous year.

(c) Over 15 years of age :

The number over 15 years of age on the 31st December, 1944, who have been immunised was 2,812.

DIPHTHERIA. IMMUNISATION

PERSONS INOCULATED EACH YEAR FROM 1936-1944

Age in years on 31st Dec. of the corres- ponding year.	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	
0	—	—	—	—	<u>1</u>	—	1	—	—	Total inoculated under five years on 31st December, 1944. 1163
1	—	—	—	2	4	<u>42</u>	125	189	206	
2	—	—	2	12	13	<u>77</u>	<u>130</u>	139	113	
3	—	—	6	19	23	73	120	<u>99</u>	65	
4	66	38	30	29	42	96	109	<u>86</u>	53	
5	222	139	146	126	162	188	134	120	53	
6	222	73	68	37	79	116	53	71	48	
7	<u>145</u>	<u>60</u>	45	30	52	62	34	29	39	
8	19	163	41	12	32	61	34	32	46	
9	1	250	<u>36</u>	<u>28</u>	23	44	33	30	31	
10	1	272	55	<u>23</u>	<u>15</u>	33	28	22	16	Total inoculated aged 5-14 years on 31st December, 1944. 3993
11	205	258	58	25	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	21	17	17	
12	208	118	63	21	10	<u>30</u>	<u>24</u>	15	19	
13	211	62	52	20	10	17	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>	15	
14	204	43	58	15	1	15	6	<u>8</u>	3	
15 and over	—	8	4	—	—	65	4	4	—	
Total each yr.	1504	1484	664	399	494	947	878	874	724	7968

ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases of Enteric Fever were notified during the year.
PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Fourteen cases were notified, all except two being notified from Whitehaven Hospital. They included five cases from other districts. All the notified cases recovered.
PNEUMONIA.

Eight cases of Acute Primary, or Influenzal Pneumonia were notified. The number of deaths from Pneumonia (all forms) was five less than in the previous year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

One case was notified from the County Social Welfare Hospital.

ERYSIPELAS.

Four cases were notified, one of whom was admitted to Hospital.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

One case was notified. Actually seven more were admitted to Ellerbeck Hospital as possible cases, and the diagnosis was confirmed in two, both of whom made complete recoveries. Four were discharged, diagnosis not confirmed, and the other died in Hospital but was not certified as having died from this disease. The one case that is shown as having died of this disease died in Whitehaven Hospital and was not notified, the diagnosis only being confirmed after death.

MEASLES.

Eleven cases were notified for the year, as against four hundred and forty-four for the previous year. There were no deaths.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Forty-two cases were notified, with three deaths.

II.—CANCER.

There were 30 deaths from Cancer during the year, a decrease of one compared with the number in 1943. The Mortality Rate from this disease was 1.39 per 1,000 of population as compared with the figure for the country as a whole of 1.90.

The sites of the lesions were as follows:—

<i>Males.</i>				<i>Females.</i>			
Tongue ...	...	...	1	Liver ...	...	...	1
Stomach ...	...	...	6	Caecum ...	...	...	1
Bile Duct ...	...	...	1	Colon ...	...	...	2
Colon ...	...	...	3	Rectum ...	...	...	1
Bladder ...	...	...	1	Breast ...	...	...	5
Prostate ...	...	...	2	Pelvis ...	...	...	1
Parotid ...	...	...	1	Not stated ...	...	...	1
Shoulder ...	...	...	1				
Lung ...	...	...	2				
—				—			
18				12			
—				—			

The average age at death of all cases was 62 years—of males 61, and of females 63.

III.—PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS, ETC.

No action was taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes, nor was any action required under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

III. TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table shows the new cases and mortality for the Borough of Whitehaven during 1944, by age-groups and sex:—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1—5	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	1
5—10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10—15	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
15—20	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
20—25	3	2	0	0	1	2	1	0
25—35	3	2	0	1	0	0	1	0
35—45	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
45—55	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
55—65	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	14	9	1	6	5	4	3	3
Total new cases ...				...	...	...	30	
Total Deaths ...				...	...	...	15	

Death Rate per 1,000 of population:—

			<i>Whitehaven.</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>
Respiratory	...	...	0.42	0.52
Non-Respiratory	...	...	0.28	0.10
All forms	...	...	0.70	0.63

Included in the above figures both for deaths and new cases, were two deaths that had not been previously notified, the proportion of non-notified deaths being 13 per cent.

New cases showed a decrease, compared with 1943, of 11, and deaths again showed a decrease of 2. The Mortality Rate from Tuberculosis is the same as the best that has ever been recorded for Whitehaven, 0.70 having previously been recorded in 1934.

SANATORIUM TREATMENT.

			In Institutions 1st Jan. 1944.	Admitted	Dis- charged.	Died.	In Institutions 1st Jan. 1945
PULMONARY CASES:							
Men	...	...	5	14	15	1	3
Women	...	...	10	6	12	—	4
Boys	...	...	4	1	3	—	2
Girls	...	...	—	1	1	—	—
NON-PULMONARY CASES:							
Men	...	...	2	1	2	1	—
Women	...	...	1	—	—	—	1
Boys	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Girls	...	...	—	2	1	—	1
OBSERVATION CASES:							
Males	...		2	4	4	—	2
Females	...	...	3	5	3	—	5
Total			27	34	41	2	18

The above Table shows the number of Tuberculosis cases and Observation Tuberculosis cases from the Borough of Whitehaven that received Sanatorium treatment under the County Council Scheme during 1944. Altogether 61 cases from Whitehaven were treated in Sanatoria during the year.

The number of notified cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1944 was:—

Pulmonary—Males	...	...	...	...	119
—Females	...	...	...	...	112
Non-Pulmonary—Males	...	...	...	...	30
—Females	...	...	...	...	28
					<hr/>
Total ...					289
					<hr/>

APPENDIX.
SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
REPORT

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
81, LOWTHER STREET,
WHITEHAVEN.

31st January, 1945.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
WHITEHAVEN.

Sir,

I beg to submit my twenty-second Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1944.

Fifty-eight preliminary notices have been served during the year, and it has not been necessary to serve any statutory notices. Only work of an urgent nature has been asked for, and this has always been done without delay.

INSPECTIONS.

Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	580
„ „ Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	40
„ „ Factories	...	...	...	...	63
„ „ Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	136
„ „ Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	179
„ „ Shops	...	...	...	...	80
„ „ Schools	...	...	...	...	12
„ „ Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	45
„ „ Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	22
„ „ Rat Infested Premises	...	...	...	...	72
„ „ Caravans attending Fairs	...	...	...	...	50
„ „ Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	12
„ „ Vessels in Harbour	...	...	...	...	66
Cases of Infectious Disease investigated	...	...	...	...	61
Visits after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	40
Milk Samples obtained	...	...	...	...	133
Water Samples obtained	...	...	...	...	13
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	61
Housing Inspection under Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	176
Housing Inspection under Housing Act	...	...	...	...	10
Interviews with Owners or Occupiers	...	...	...	...	470
Miscellaneous Visits and Inspections	...	...	...	...	353
Total					2,674

IMPROVEMENTS.

Obstructed Drains Cleansed	...	...	...	...	34
New Gullies Fixed	...	...	...	...	26
Drains Repaired or Relaid	...	...	...	...	24
New Pedestal W.C.'s Provided	...	...	...	...	18
New Flushing Cisterns Fixed	...	...	...	...	5
Flushing Cisterns Repaired	...	...	...	...	5
New Sinks Fixed	...	...	...	...	2
House Roofs Repaired	...	...	...	...	27
Plastering Repaired	...	...	...	...	5
New Spouting Fixed	...	...	...	...	2
Dust Bins Provided	...	...	...	...	12
Cowsheds Limewashed	...	...	...	...	50
Offensive Accumulations Removed	...	...	...	...	10
Nuisances from Animals Removed	...	...	...	...	1
Houses Disinfected	...	...	...	...	8
Houses Disinfested	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	4
Total					239

FACTORIES.

One hundred and three visits have been paid to factories, and the following contraventions were observed:—

Dirty Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	2
Insufficient ventilation to Sanitary Convenience	...	...	...	...	1
Total					3

In all cases, the work was carried out after verbal or written intimation was given.

SHOPS.

Eighty visits were paid to shops. One complaint was made regarding cleanliness of the Sanitary convenience, and this was attended to on verbal notice being given.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was taken during the year.

VERMINOUS HOUSES.

The number of houses found to be infested with vermin was 22, viz. :—

Council Houses	...	...	...	14
Other Houses	...	...	...	8

Three of the cases in Council houses and one other house, were bad, and the skirting boards, picture rails, etc., had to be removed and the houses fumigated with Cimex. In other cases, the houses were sprayed with Zaldecide.

HOUSING.

No systematic work has been done during the year, and inspections have been confined to premises in respect of which complaint has been received.

These invariably refer to properties scheduled as Clearance Areas, and defects or nuisances of an urgent nature have been remedied, but no work involving extensive repair or alteration has been attempted.

OVERCROWDING.

No accurate figure can be given regarding overcrowding. Owing to the difficult conditions existing at present, it is not possible to insist on the fixed standard being maintained, but wherever it is possible to do so, bad cases are dealt with by arranging an exchange in the case of Council houses, and by arrangement with the owners where privately owned property is involved.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 25 producers resident in the Borough, viz.:—
1 tuberculin tested, 15 accredited, and 9 ungraded. In addition 12 outside producers, viz.:—3 tuberculin tested, 4 accredited, 4 ungraded and 1 pasteurised, supply milk either wholesale or retail in Whitehaven.

There are 30 retailers registered for the sale of milk, viz.:

17 Producer-Retailers resident in the Borough.

4 Producer-Retailers resident outside the Borough.

9 Retailers resident inside or outside the Borough.

SAMPLES.

During the year 133 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, the results being as follows:—

<i>Grade.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
T.T.	28	19 = 68%	9 = 32%
Accredited	71	54 = 76%	17 = 24%
Ungraded	34	20 = 59%	14 = 41%

The standard taken as satisfactory for Ungraded milk is that of Accredited milk.

Sixty-four samples were examined for T.B. One was found positive and the matter was referred to the County Authority. The affected cow was discovered by the Regional Veterinary Officer, and was destroyed.

One hundred and thirty six visits have been paid to the cowsheds and dairies, and generally they have been found satisfactory.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The central slaughterhouse, where slaughtering is still carried on for the districts of Whitehaven, Workington and Ennerdale Rural, has been conducted satisfactorily.

As in previous years, 100 per cent. inspection has been maintained, and one Inspector is employed practically full-time at the slaughterhouse.

The relations between the members of the department with the slaughterhouse manager, the Wholesale Meat Agent, and the Retail Buying Committee have continued to be satisfactory.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the condemnations during the year.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,391	1,456	5,866	38,166	80
Number inspected ...	2,391	1,456	5,866	38,166	80
<i>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	20	82	83	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	39		5	72	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	1.60		1.48	0.41	11.25
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	8	76	4	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	431		5	—	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	13.39		0.15	—	7.50

Total Weight of Meat Condemned 45 tons, 11cwt., 18lb.

OTHER ARTICLES OF FOOD SURRENDERED.

Miscellaneous Tinned Meats	...	...	...	...	...	1,138lb.
Miscellaneous Tinned Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	972lb.
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	...	...	90lb.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	268lb.
Malt Flour, Cereals, Rye, Oats	...	...	...	...	...	1,602lb.
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	...	486lb.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	187lb.
Yeast	...	...	...	...	...	21lb.
						4,764lb.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There is still only one offensive trade on the Register, viz.:—A Rag and Bone dealer.

Twelve visits have been paid to the premises and generally they have been conducted satisfactorily.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES AND HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

There is one common lodging house and three houses let in lodgings on the Register.

Forty-five visits have been paid and the premises found to be conducted satisfactorily.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. F. LORD,

Sanitary Inspector.

